

TO  
BEAU FRIEDLANDER

October 7, 1998

Dear Mr. Friedlander:

I write in answer to your letter of October 2.

I've received no further word from Tony Serra about the other publisher to whom he submitted my manuscript, so at present you're the only candidate. Since I'm anxious to get the book into print as soon as possible, I would be willing to let you go ahead with it, but I understand it's customary for a publisher to offer an author a contract specifying the terms of publication, and of course I'd have to see the contract before making a binding commitment.

My principal concern is that the contract should prescribe that no changes will be made in the book without my permission. Also, in your letter of September 4 you offered to guarantee that the book will not go out of print, and I find that provision attractive. I'd also like to have an estimate of how long it will take you to get the book published.

Financial arrangements are a matter of indifference to me, since I wouldn't be allowed to receive any of the profits anyway. But there are legal technicalities that will have to be worked out. I can't sell you the book, because in the eyes of the Bureau of Prisons that would constitute "conducting a business," which is prohibited to inmates. I think I can give you the book, but my alleged victims will probably have a claim on the proceeds. I'm told that all this can be

worked out, but a lawyer will be needed for the purpose. If you have a lawyer whom you customarily consult about matters related to publication, you can refer to him; but if your lawyer is not experienced in dealing with publication by federal prisoners, you might suggest that he contact my erstwhile attorney Judy Clarke. Her husband is a civil attorney who has experience with prisoner's-rights issues, and he would probably be willing to give some advice, gratis, about how to make the arrangements. But I would prefer not to let Judy Clarke or her husband actually assume responsibility for the arrangements, because I want to free myself from dependence on my former defense team.

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You asked about editing the book for syntax and the like. I have just three concerns about editing. First, I don't want any significant documentation or argumentation to be deleted; making a solid, well-documented case for the truth of my version of events over that of my brother and mother has to take priority over readability. Second, I don't want changes made in the text that would alter the meaning. Third, I wouldn't want so many changes made that the writing would no longer be my own. (When I was a graduate student I published a paper in the Michigan Math Journal that was so heavily edited that it was virtually rewritten for me. The editor, George Piranian, was a

much better mathematical writer than I was, and his version of the paper was certainly better-written than mine had been. But, though I didn't make an issue of it, I was rather irritated that someone else's writing was published under my name.)

Apart from these three points there is just one other problem, namely, time. I would want to examine all your editorial changes carefully, to make sure that they didn't alter the meaning in ways that I found unacceptable. That would take time, and time is what I haven't got. At present I'm working with a lawyer in the hope of reopening my case, and we're struggling to meet a legal deadline. If I do succeed in reopening my case I'll probably be swamped with case-related work, and, of course, the legal stuff has to take priority over everything else, because it can't be put off.

So I suggest the following. If you like, select one chapter of my book for editing. Don't afflict me with any changes that are of marginal significance; make only those changes that you really feel are important. Then I'll review your changes and see if they're acceptable to me. If we can work it all out with little expenditure of time on my part, then you can go ahead and line-edit the rest of the book. But if working through the syntactical changes is going to cost me much time then I'd rather just go ahead and publish the book as is — though I know

well that it could be improved.

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I did not find it very easy to decipher your handwritten letter of September 24, but I think you wrote that you had received my manuscript "minus the appendices." I assume you meant Appendices 6 through 11, since Appendices 1 through 5 were with the main body of the manuscript. Please let me know whether you have by now received Appendices 6 through 11.

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In response to the last paragraph of your October 2 letter — I do hope to produce an autobiography eventually, and probably at least one other book.

With many thanks for your interest in my work,

Ted Kaczynski

P.S. I keep forgetting to mention that my manuscript is available on a disk, and I can have a copy of the disk sent to you at your request.

— TK

P.P.S. I also forgot to mention that while Tony Serra will probably be willing to help with legal arrangements for publication, he's so busy that there may be substantial delays in any services he provides. That's why I suggested consulting Judy Clarke's husband instead of Serra. But there's no reason why you can't deal with Serra. If it turns out that he's too tardy in providing services we can seek legal help elsewhere.

— TK

P.P.P.S. Another thing I keep forgetting to tell you — I can probably get some previously unpublished family photographs that you can put in the book. Also, on January 19, 1997, the Sacramento Bee published two photographs of my brother that you might want to use, since they are referred to in the book (Chapter XV, Note 41). These two photos of course are not my property, and you'd have to negotiate with the Sacramento Bee for the right to use them.

—TK